

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

230928Z Jun 00

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PAGE 01 HARARE 03448 230924Z  
ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	INL-01	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	SRPP-00	DS-00	VC-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00
	JUSE-00	L-00	VCE-00	AC-01	NEA-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00
	SP-00	IRM-00	SSO-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00
	DRL-02	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/007W	
					-----662C1A	230925Z	/38

FM AMEMBASSY HARARE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6387  
INFO SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY  
RWANDA COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L HARARE 003448

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/23/10

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [CG](#) [ZI](#)

SUBJECT: POLICE CLOSE DOWN MASIRE'S KINSHASA OFFICE

REF: STATE 117859

CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR TOM MCDONALD REASONS 1.5 B/D.

1. (C) ON JUNE 23 DCM DELIVERED A DEMARCHE TO MINISTRY  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDER SECRETARY FOR AFRICA DAVID  
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PAGE 02 HARARE 03448 230924Z  
HAMADZIRIPI PER REFTTEL INSTRUCTION. DCM ALSO LEFT A  
NON-PAPER CONTAINING POINTS IN PARAS 1 AND 3 FOR HIS  
CONSIDERATION.

2. (C) HAMADZIRIPI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT, "THIS IS A VERY  
DIFFICULT SITUATION." HE NOTED THAT ZIMBABWE WAS  
CONCERNED THAT CLOSURE OF NATIONAL DIALOGUE FACILITATOR  
SIR KETUMILE MASIRE'S OFFICE IN KINSHASA PUTS A DAMPER  
ON THE MOMENTUM INDUCED IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS. THE  
ZIMBABWEAN DIPLOMAT STRESSED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT  
SUPPORTED THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE, WHICH HE ACKNOWLEDGED  
WAS A VERY IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF THE PEACE AGREEMENT, AND  
HAD ENCOURAGED THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
OF THE CONGO TO WORK WITH MASIRE TO ACHIEVE A POLITICAL  
SOLUTION. IN ZIMBABWE'S ANALYSIS, THE PROBLEM STEMS  
FROM THE FACT THAT THE ROLE OF THE FACILITATOR WAS FROM  
THE BEGINNING NEVER MADE VERY CLEAR. IN JANUARY THE  
POLITICAL COMMITTEE ATTEMPTED TO CLARIFY IT, BUT  
UNFORTUNATELY NOT SUCCESSFULLY. THE CONGOLESE, WHO HE  
SAID RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR A FACILITATOR, NEVERTHELESS  
REQUIRED THAT INDIVIDUAL TO RECOGNIZE THE AUTHORITY AND  
SOVEREIGNTY OF THE KABILA GOVERNMENT.

3. (C) FOR REASONS THAT THE ZIMBABWEANS DID NOT FULLY  
UNDERSTAND, KINSHASA HAD LOST CONFIDENCE IN MASIRE THE  
PERSON, AS FACILITATOR. INDEED, THE CONGOLESE FOREIGN  
MINISTER HAD CALLED HIM THE "COMPLICATOR" AT A RECENT  
POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING IN LUSAKA. THE ZIMBABWEANS  
QUESTIONED WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO RESTORE  
KABILA'S TRUST IN MASIRE; HAMADZIRIPI THOUGHT NOT, AND  
IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE CONGOLESE HEAD OF STATE WOULD  
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PAGE 03 HARARE 03448 230924Z  
CONTINUE TO CHECK HIS EVERY MOVE. THE ZIMBABWEAN  
DIPLOMAT SEEMED AT A LOSS AS TO WHAT THE NEXT STEPS  
MIGHT BE TO RECTIFY THIS PROBLEM, AND DOUBTED HIS  
GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO PERSUADE KABILA TO REVERSE  
HIS DECISION AND COOPERATE WITH MASIRE. "WE FIND  
OURSELVES IN A CRISIS," HE CONCLUDED, "BUT ZIMBABWE WILL  
DO WHAT IT CAN SO THE PROCESS IS CARRIED FORWARD".

MCDONALD

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